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PATENT Attorney Docket No.: 16869P-096400US

Client Ref. No.: 340300387US1

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TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Kenichi Kihara et al.

Application No.: 10/826,476

Filed: April 16, 2004

For: Control System and Method for

Management Items

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 1514

Examiner:

unassigned

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2171

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH PETITION TO

**MAKE SPECIAL** 

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In connection with the Petition to Make Special submitted herewith, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.